

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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In one embodiment, the protruding member 104 is formed from a circular rod. The bag 102 is similar to a conventional bale bag, but is modified for use with the automatic system of the present invention. The bag 102 may be formed from one or more layers of brown paper. The bag 102 is illustrated in a folded or closed configuration in Figure 3. The bags 102 are folded in the manner of a conventional grocery bag to permit ease in shipping and storage. The bag 102 is shown in an unfolded or open configuration in Figure 4. Figure 4 also includes an enlarged portion illustrating the multi-layer arrangement of the bag 102. In the folded configuration, the dimensions of the bag 102 are approximately 13 inches wide by 32 inches long. When in the unfolded configuration, shown in Figure 4, the bag has a depth of approximately 7 inches and an opening of approximately 7 inches by 13 inches. Although the bag 102 may have the standard dimensions described above, those skilled in the art will recognize that the system 100 can be used with bags of virtually any dimension. The only accommodation for bags of different size may be the relative location of the various components of the system 100.

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